



## MISSION

**B**uilding  
**R**elationships that  
**I**nspire one another,  
**D**evelop mutual trust,  
**G**uided by family voice & choice, and  
**E**stablish equitable partnerships

## VISION

Partnering with families and community resources, the **BRIDGE** envisions a future in which we leverage the strengths of families and coordinates community partners to support and sustain youth and family well-being.

# THE CORE PILLARS OF BRIDGE



Comprehensive review with families regarding their needs, dreams, and goals.



Walking alongside families as they navigate systems, programs, and services.



Navigational support to connect families to high quality programs and services.



Advocacy for systems, programs, and supports that address service or system gaps.

# WHAT DO FAMILIES NEED?



## BASIC NEEDS

**12%** of residents living below the poverty line.



**14%** of families experiencing food insecurity.



## MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS

- Over 40% of families calling the Helpline request mental health support.
- Need for easily accessible and culturally responsive mental health services.



## FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS

- Parent education and support was the #1 referral for families calling the Helpline.
- Short-term respite care is needed in some family conflict situations, where the parent and child may need a short break from one another.



## SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

- 21% of Douglas County students missed 15 or more days of school with 75% of these students living in poverty and 25% eligible for special education.
- Need to build community and provider capacity to address the root cause of absenteeism to ensure all youth thrive.



## CONNECTIONS TO SERVICES

- Over 60% of families stated they need help in identifying their family's needs and over 75% said they need help accessing services.
- Need coordinated access to community services that are responsive, timely and adaptive to the complex needs of families.

\* Davidson, M., Richmond, M., Hanson, S., Matthews, J., & Kay, A. (2021). Douglas County Family Resource Center Project: Environmental Scan. Community Needs & Assets, Barriers, and Potential Solutions. OMNI Institute, Denver, CO.

# GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- **Welcoming** to all families, providing universal access to needed resources and supports
- **Culturally Responsive** and linguistically competent, recognizing the diversity of our community and the need for equitable and inclusive services
- **Strengths-Based**, supporting the positive factors inherent in each individual and all families
- **Family-Driven**, understanding that families can and should determine the services and supports they need
- **Mutually Respectful**, supporting collaboration between and among families, employees, and community partners, acknowledging that all have important knowledge and expertise
- **Coordinated Access** to the rich array of resources, services, and supports in the community, so families are aware of all that is available
- **Innovative**, knowing that needs change over time, and programs and supports need to be added, adjusted, or changed to meet those needs.